

county line ends but, this was not true for Sheriff East. Buddy served two terms as the president of the Mississippi Sheriff's Association from 1989 to 1990 and 1999 to 2000 helping lead the direction of every county in our great state.

Throughout Sheriff East's long career, he was recognized for many awards, titles, and medals. Among these awards, Buddy was most honored by receiving the Silver Star for Bravery from the American Law Enforcement Association. Most recently, in 2015, Buddy was honored by the Lafayette County Law Enforcement and Officers Association with the Medal of Valor and unselfishness in the Face of Danger.

Buddy's love for his community was surpassed by only one thing, his love for his family. Even during his busiest times, Buddy was ever present in the life of his grandchildren attending all their school and sports events. Buddy was especially proud of his time as a little league baseball coach.

Before passing away, Sheriff East expressed his gratitude to the community of Lafayette County for allowing him to serve the people he loved. Sheriff Buddy East's presence will be missed by all.

Sheriff East is survived by his wife, Mary Hall East of Oxford; five children, Melissa Westbrook and her husband, Billy, Joey East and his wife, Kimberly, Shannon Lomax and her husband, Max, Steve Lewis and his wife, Melanie, all of Oxford and Scott Lewis and his wife, Brandi of Dallas, TX; a sister, Nona Tutor of Oxford and thirteen grandchildren.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for roll call votes 394, 395 on September 12, 2018.

Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 394; yea on Roll Call No. 395; and yea on Roll Call No. 396.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote last night due to illness.

Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 394; yea on Roll Call No. 395; and yea on Roll Call No. 396.

HONOR FLIGHT OF SOUTHERN OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the eight World War II veterans and sev-

enteen Korean War veterans from Oregon who are visiting their memorials on the National Mall on Saturday, September 15th, 2018, through Honor Flight of Southern Oregon. Every time I have the chance to meet one of these heroes, I am reminded of the poignant words of General Dwight D. Eisenhower. In a message to Allied troops just before D-Day, he said, "The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you."

He was right then, of course, Mr. Speaker. But over seventy years later, liberty-loving people everywhere continue to owe these heroes for their extraordinary service and their incredible stories of sacrifice and bravery on behalf of our country. That's why it is my privilege to include their names in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD today.

The veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are as follows: Robert Ashmead, Navy; Al Axtell, Army Air Force; Joseph Bieber, Marine Corps; Dean Bosche, Air Force; Kenneth Brookhart, Navy; Joseph Browell, Navy; Al Carter, Army; Jack Cox, Navy and Army National Guard; Dale Dexter, Air Force and Marine Corps; Ron Duke, Army; William Evans Jr., Marine Corps; John Garbini, Army Air Force; Neil Haga, Army; Dale Heath, Navy; Charles Hewitt, Navy; Leonard Leach, Navy; Edwin McCurry, Army Air Force; Edward Parkes, Navy; Ruth Parks, Navy; Jack Rentz, Navy; William Staunton, Navy; Gerhard Tank, Navy; Dale Templeman, Navy; Fred Warren, Marine Corps; and Whitney Woodburn Jr., Navy.

These twenty-five heroes join over 200,000 veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005.

I would also like to recognize the twelve guardians traveling on this trip who have also served our country: Michael Boehme, Navy; Melissa Candy, Army National Guard; Mark Collier, Navy and Coast Guard; Robert Fleischman, Navy; David Haines, Navy and Air Force; Terry Haines, Navy; Charles Hanger, Army; Evan Hanson, Air Force; Ron Kohl, Army Air Force; Pete Pringle, Navy; Charles Sharpes, Army; and Tanya Wilson, Navy.

Mr. Speaker, at the height of the Civil War in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote, "Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause." Each of us in this chamber and in this nation should be humbled by the courage of these brave veterans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Southern Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT TAYLOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, due to the anticipated impact of Hurricane Florence I will miss the votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 394; YEA on Roll Call No. 395; and YEA on Roll Call No. 396.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DOCTOR JOHN ALEXANDER

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Doctor John Gilbert Alexander. Doctor Alexander, a native of Union, Mississippi, passed away on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at the age of 90.

John Gilbert Alexander graduated from Union High School in 1946. He continued his education at Millsaps College where received his Bachelor of Science Degree. In 1954, he went to Tulane University where he received his Doctor of Medicine. This was the start of Dr. Alexander's great life of service.

Shortly after graduating from Tulane, Dr. Alexander joined the United States Air Force where he was stationed at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina as a Captain. After completing his three years of service from 1955–1958, Dr. Alexander returned to Union where he began his long partnership with Laird Hospital/Family Medical Group. Of his 60 years of practicing medicine, one date that stands out in particular is March 1st, 1966, at Laird Hospital in Union where Dr. Alexander was helping my mother, Barbara Kelly, deliver me.

Dr. Alexander not only served his patients but also served as a member of the Mississippi Academy of Family Practice, Mississippi Medical Association, and Southern Medical Association. He was also selected as "Physician of the Year" in 1997 by the Mississippi Chapter of the American Family Practice Association.

In 2006, Dr. Alexander helped establish the J.G. Alexander Nursing Home. The nursing home, located in Union, has 60 beds and accepts Medicare and Medicaid patients. In 2008, Dr. Alexander retired from his clinic duties but, remained active on the Laird Hospital staff as Senior Medical Advisor.

His career as a doctor is not the only factor that defined him. Dr. Alexander loved his community and was extremely active in it. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Union where he served as an Elder and a Clerk. He also served as a member of the Union Lion's Club, Union Chamber of Commerce, and the Union School Board. In 2005, the Union Chamber of Commerce named Dr. Alexander as "Citizen of the Year." The Union Chamber of commerce went on to present him with the "Lifetime Achievement Recipient Award" in 2014.

Dr. Alexander's life was one of service, gratitude, love for his family, and community. He will be dearly missed by all he encountered.

Dr. Alexander is survived by his four children Karen, David, Ross and Mike, his seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren.